

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Int'l Ibsen Seminar and Theatre Festival
Title: Ibsen Through New Eyes
Venue: Shilpakala Academy & Jahangirnagar University
Date: November 12-23
Time: Everyday 5:30pm onwards



Painting Exhibition
Title: Dhaka-Kolkata
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: November 13-22
Time: 12-8pm



Art Exhibition and Auction
Organisers: Citibank, N.A. Bangladesh and Gallery Chittrak
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
Date: November 20
Time: 11am

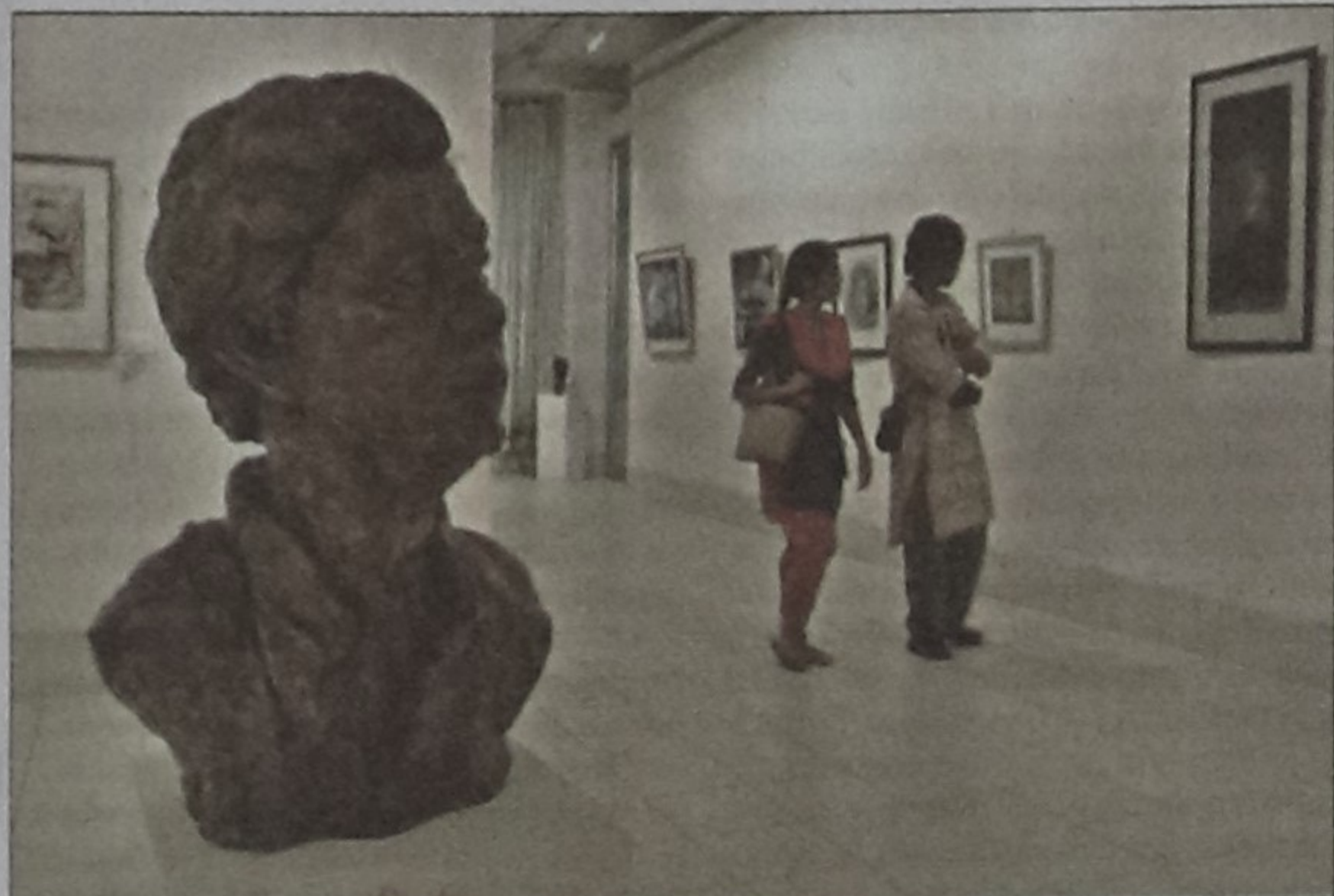


Book Fair
Title: Nobanner Boi Utshab
Organiser: Adorn Publication
Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: November 5-21
Time: 10am-8pm



Vignettes from Selim Al Deen's life and works

Painting and installation at BSA



The exhibition features artworks on Selim Al Deen.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

CORRESPONDENT

A 12-day international festival featuring the works of legendary Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen began on November 12 at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Apart from plays and seminars, an art competition and exhibition on Bangladeshi theatre icon Selim Al Deen, titled "Images of Selim Al Deen's Life and Works", are now on at the National Art Gallery, BSA. The exhibition features artworks by the students of 12 art institutes of the country. Over 100 artists are participating in the exhibition.

At the exhibition, Selim Al Deen has been focused on in myriad ways. Most of the painters have portrayed his contemplative face. Participating painters have captured his keen eyes and introspective mood on their canvas. Through his inquisitive and appreciating eyes, artists have captured the spirit of Al Deen in his most candid and outspoken moments. A number of painters have experimented with the themes of his plays. Artists have worked with different mediums and techniques like oil, acrylic, mixed media, metal, collage and others. Some sculptures delineate Al Deen's visage and body language. A number of col-

lages depict different forms of his productions. It is noticeable that most of the paintings have been copied from different photographs of the theatre icon.

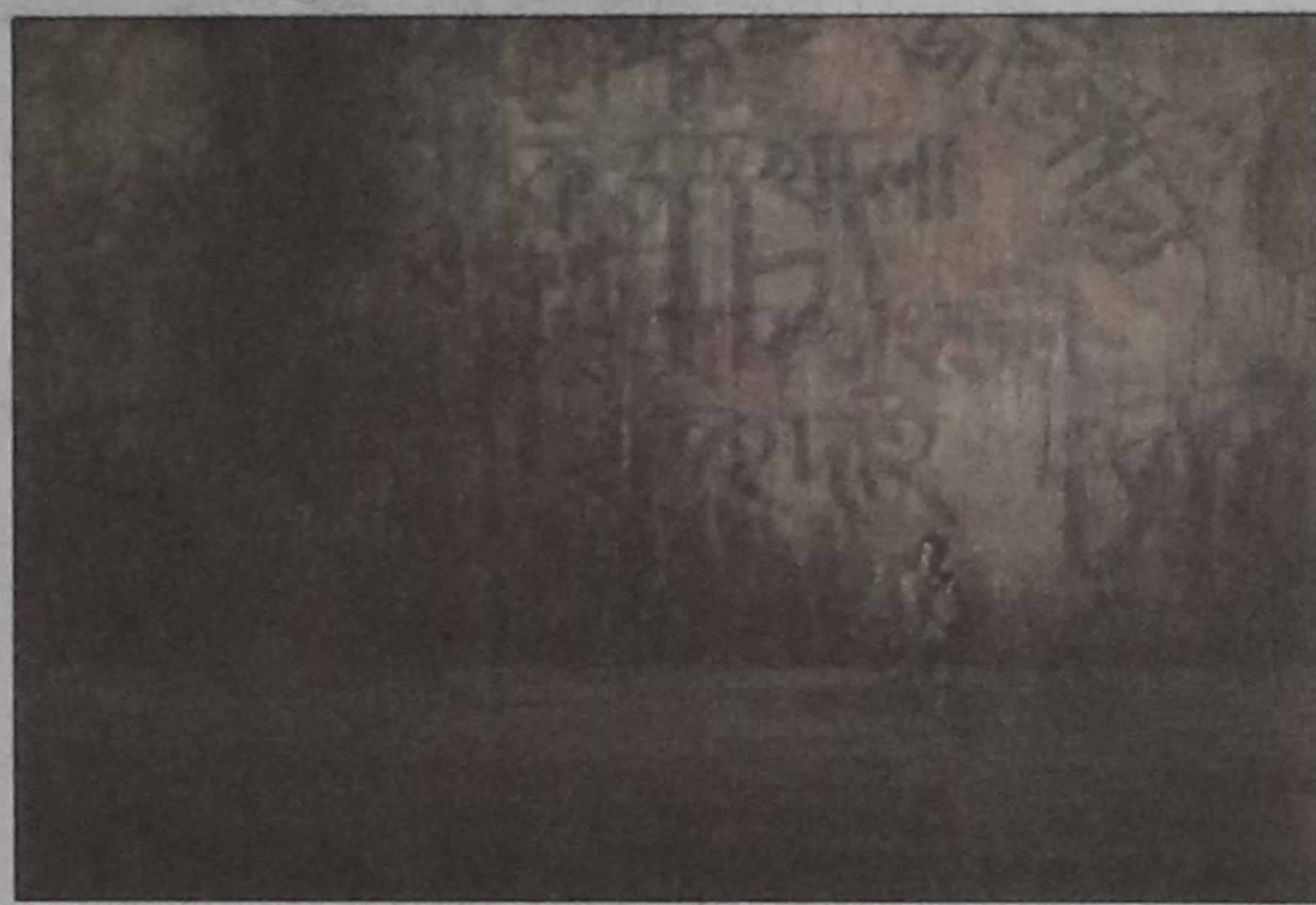
Participation of painters who emerged in the mid and late '90s is quite noticeable at the exhibition. The objective is to assemble artists belonging to different age groups, working in different mediums but focusing on a particular subject. The organisers arranged a competition

among the participating painters. The awardees are Mohammad Azmoluddin, Kanak Kumar and Mohammad Khalequzzaman Shimul.

Beside the exhibition, an installation, titled "Ghosts of the Heartland" by noted American artist Sara Paula Hoffman's works, are on display at the festival. Paula Hoffman is a Professor of Art, Savannah College of Art and Design, USA. The exhibition features oil paintings and drawings influenced by Ibsen's play, "Gengangere" (Ghosts). Most of the works are closely connected to the psychological world.

The painter seeks to give new directions for experimental artists, who want to explore new themes with new techniques. The artist has created visual theatre on a two-dimensional stage with paintings and drawings. The work draws the curtain on the illusory Kodak moment of the artist's mid-20th century family and social life of America's 'Heartland'. The Midwestern family has been observed through an Ibsen lens; the artist brings themes from the play into her contemporary narrative works. The aim of exhibition is highlighted through wide ranging dialogues with the viewers on contemporary issues from Ibsen's plays.

The exhibition ends on November 24.



Int'l Ibsen Seminar and Theatre Festival '09

Theatre Art Unit stages "Chhayachakra"



Theatre Art Unit's adaptation of "Ghosts" highlights the psychological state of the characters.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

JAMIL MAHMUD

Theatre Art Unit staged an adaptation of Ibsen's "Ghosts" at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on November 17. Adapted by Mohammad Bari, the play was directed by Rokeya Rafique Baby.

This adaptation of "Ghosts" highlights the psychological state of the characters. Whereas, an earlier adaptation of the same play at the festival, by BSA, in the 'Kushan Gaan' form, was a narrative. Baby's direction prioritises the ups and downs in the characters' lives.

The story of "Chhayachakra" highlights the penultimate day of Mrs. Almas' life with her husband's family. Her only son Walid comes back home after finishing his studies from abroad. Tragically Walid falls for Rosy, an illegitimate daughter of his father.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Almas wanted to keep Walid away from the bad influences of her husband. When she talks about Walid's affair, it sounds like her ultimate

defeat to her husband.

A bemused Mrs. Almas finally burns down all of her husband's property, which she initially wanted to donate for a noble cause and makes a journey for unknown. Rosy escorts her.

The director pointed out

that the production is designed to make the characters play freely and to use the space from different directions. The play features the use of masks to demonstrate ghostly appearance. Baby has used the mingling of set, music and light to create a face-to-face contrast of

past and present.

The director herself enacted the role of Mrs. Almas. Mohammad Bari played Monwar, a close family friend of the Almases. Fauzia Karim Anu as Rosy and Sujana as Walid were not particularly impressive. Salim Mahub as Rosy's father Akkas, who randomly used colloquial words throughout the play, enacted a shrewd character. Kamruzzaman Millat, as Almas' shadowy presence, only appears a couple of times throughout the play.

Faiz Zahir was the set and light designer of the play. Selim Mahub did the background music. Dipu and Shaju were in charge of props.

Today, two plays will be staged. Nagarik Natya Sampraday will stage "Opekkhaman" at the Experimental Theatre Hall at 5pm. Directed by veteran theatre personality Ataur Rahman, the play is an adaptation of Ibsen, Rabindranath Tagore and Syed Shamsul Haq's works. At 7pm at the National Theatre Hall, Aarohan Theatre from Kathmandu, Nepal will stage "Mahan Shilpi" (adaptation of "The Master Builder").



Rokeya Rafique Baby and co-actor in the play.

Fifth Citycell-Channel i Music Awards to be held soon



Faridur Reza Sagar (second from left) speaks at the conference.

CORRESPONDENT

A press conference was held on November 17, to discuss the upcoming Citycell-Channel i music awards.

Anand Rajasingham, marketing head of Citycell; Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director, Impress Telefilm Ltd, Channel i; Taslim Ahmed, DGM (corporate affairs) of Citycell and Syed Tanjim Haq, DGM (Media) of Citycell attended the event.

Prior to the press conference, a video footage revisiting the former four successful gala rounds was screened on the occasion.

Singers, musicians and technicians will be awarded in 16 categories including a Lifetime Achievement Award. The categories are: classical (instrumental), classical (vocal), Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet, motion picture soundtrack, modern songs, folk songs, band music, lyricist, music director, debut singer

(male and female), cover designer (album), music video and sound engineer.

In addition, there will be the fifth Citycell-Channel i Music Awards based on viewers' votes through SMS in four special categories -- band music, modern songs, motion picture soundtrack and new artists.

The entire event is divided into three parts: primary selection, secondary selection and final selection. To make the event impartial, the covers, tags and artists' identities will be concealed before presenting them to the judges. The jury will include prominent music exponents.

The selection programme will initiate through asking nominations for the albums released in 2008 from audiocassettes, audio CD and VCD production houses. People can send the albums either by post or dropping them in the specified box at Channel i, 40, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sarani, Tejgaon, Dhaka from November 18 to December 5, 2009.

Angelina Jolie And Brad Pitt's new role: Jewellery designers

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have put their creative minds to something new -- elegant serpent-themed jewellery. The power couple has teamed with a top British jeweller Asprey to come up with a series of designs for everything from earrings, pendants, bangles, rings to a silver spoon and egg cup. And, like so much of their life away from the cameras, the collection will benefit others.

All the net proceeds will go to the Education Partnership for Children of Conflict, to which the couple has already donated \$1 million via the Jolie-Pitt Foundation in June 2008. For Jolie, 34, the inspiration for the collection was an obvious one. While she was expecting Shiloh in 2006, she was given a special gift -- a protective snake ring. It was seen as a protector for mother and unborn child, and Jolie has come to view the motif as something of a family guardian.

"Since then she has seen the snake symbol as a protective talisman for her family," a source at Asprey says. The series started out as something for children -- 16-month-old

Vivienne has already been photographed wearing bangles with the snake motifs -- but has developed into the limited edition "Protector Collection" of high end jewellery and other luxuries, which does still include children's items like a tooth box and silver egg cup.

Source: Internet



Shomi and Panna Kaiser on "Eki Brintey" tonight



Shomi (left) and Panna Kaiser on the show.

CORRESPONDENT

Actress and TV host Shomi Kaiser and her mother Panna Kaiser are the guests on Desh TV's talk show "Lizan Herbal Eki Brintey" tonight. The programme features a celebrity as guest who is joined by a family member -- parent, sibling, spouse or teacher -- whose support and influence have played a major role behind his/her success.

Tonight's episode will provide an insight into the wonderful relationship between Shomi and Panna Kaiser -- never before heard stories and the latter's influences and support behind Shomi's success and more.

They will be joined by actress Tanvin Sweetie as the host. The programme is produced by Ushnish Chakrabarti.

"Lizan Herbal Ekoi Brintey" is aired on Desh TV every Thursday at 8:30pm.